

The P O P I S H

M A S S A C R E,

As it was Discovered to the Honorable

House of Commons :

Sitting in a Grand C O M M I T T E E for the

Suppression of Popery:

In the Month of *June* 1678. at the time of the Parliaments
Prorogation.

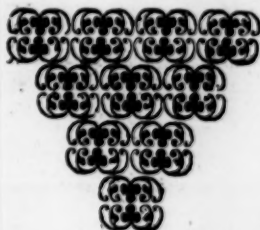
By *Richard Greene,*

O R,

The IV Part of the present Popish Plot, farther Discove-
red and Demonstrated.

Being part of *Dr. Tonges* Collections on that Subject, Pub-
lished for his Vindication.

Whereby it may appear, who were the Inventers, and Con-
trivers of this Plot, and who the Movers of the first Disco-
veries of it, in which he is still a great Sufferer and no Plotter.



L O N D O N,

Printed by *T.D.* for *John Smith*, a Bookseller, in *Great*
Queen-street. 1679.



Publisher to the READER.

Courteous Reader,

WHilst Dr. *Tonge* finds many Lets and Discouragements to go through with the solid History of the Plot, he hath been importuned by nothing more then his Charity towards this poor Witness to part with and permit, and assist him to publish in Print these his Papers, the Originals whereof received from him at several times are still in the Doctors Custody, Written in his own Hand.

The Collections the Doctor prepared for the other 3 parts, namely, his Discoveries and Demonstrations of the Jesuites acting in this Plot, as Assassines, Regicides and Incendiaries are already in the Press, on designs of like Charity, and to the end, that if he shall be still disenabled or disappointed in his publication of his intended History, Posterity may have sufficient ground, to believe, publish to the World, and relate to all Ages, the Bloody, Treacherous, and Ungrateful practices of these restless beautefewes, against the most Gracious Princes, King *James*, King *Charles* the Martyr, and his Majesty that now lives, (an unparallell'd Miracle of Gods wonderful and merciful Providence,) and against the Churches and Kingdoms, wherein they did or might have lived, with as much liberty and less suspicion at least, as some dissenting Protestants, had they known any moderation.

If we find these have favourable entertainment, we shall be encouraged to proceed to other parts, which the Doctor hath provided as materials for his History, and may with better satisfaction, as we hope, to the Publick, be dispersed into many hands by the Press, then concealed for his own use only in his private Papers.

And it is hoped, that whilst the Doctor thus waves both his Credit and Profit, with a greater respect to Charity and Publick Good, it will not be expected that these things should appear in any other dress, than that of their native simplicity.

Da veniam subitis, non displicuisse meretur,
Festinat Patriæ qui placuisse suæ.

*Pardon kind Readers, what you can't commend,
This haste to please deserves not to offend.*

To the Honourable, the Committee of the
House of Commons, appointed for
the Examinations of the Popish
Conspiracies.

I Commend unto you this plain Relation of the first Discovery of the Popish plotted Conspiracy for subverting the Government and Religion, and Massacring the People of the Kingdom of England, and other his Majesties Dominions, and the assassinating his Royal Person: as I drew it up (for my own satisfaction) out of several pieces at several times; and of the first Discoverers thereof; according to the notices I have been able to procure of them, and so far as they are willing to be known.

You will be pleased to excuse the rudeness and imperfection thereof: it is one part of a large rough draught of the general Narrative which I have in hand, and wherein I propose to myself to omit nothing that I conceive may by your Wisdom and diligence improved, conduce to the clearing the simplicity, sincerity, integrity, ingenuity, candor or truth of the Witnesses produced, or to be produced in this affair, or for the discovery of any matter of fact or circumstance that may tend to the disclosing of this Conspiracy, or any, the Conspirators therein, or any further evidence against them, or refuting the Scandals, Lyes, Equivocations, Forgeries, Briberies, Subornations and Perjuries, wherewith they so mightily impose upon Multitudes of People, darken the clearest Evidences, and contradict most manifestly the truest Narratives.

I know some minute Circumstances and passages, and such as relate to some accidental occurrences by which these things were brought to Light (which I have purposely inserted to refute some studied Cavils, representing them as politick contrivances) are liable to exceptions, and sinister interpretations of some concerned persons, but those who are candid, will find therein cause to give God all the Glory: Who by the accidental Circumstances of undesigned, uncontrived events discovers, decipherers, displays suddenly the long projected, most craftily contrived, deeply hid, and vigorously prosecuted unjust machinations of wicked Politicians and Conspirators against his secret purposes. By these, next to nothing, and many times meerly imaginary appearances, jealousies and panick fears, he rejoiceth to expose to contempt, and render altogether ridiculous and ineffectual what in all humane appearance was wisely designed and strongly built; and as he first made all things out of, so he often shakes Heaven and Earth with things that do not appear; whilst he chuseth not the mighty and wise of the World to confound such as themselves, and frequently catcheth most subtle Machiavellian Politicians in the crafty Snares they have laid, and the deadly Pits they have digg'd for others, &c. Not unto us, not unto us, but to thy Name be the Praise. So let all thy Enemies Perish, O God. Amen.

The Right Reverend Father in God, Herbert, Lord Bishop of Hereford, had long since some notice of this Plot, either from the Information or Depositions of Mr. Robert Woodhouse, Richard Green, and several others (made about Whitsuntide 1676: at Hereford, before Sir James Bridges (now Lord Shandoes) and other Justices of the Peace of the County of Hereford, by Order of his Majesty, upon a report spread in those parts of change of Government and insurrections of Papists: which Examinations and Depositions were by the said Justices sent up to his Majestie, and Captain Thomas Bowyer was committed to Prison upon them) or else from other persons, or by other means, as his words following will shew, taken out of his Epistle prefixed to his Legacy, Printed Anno Domini 1678, and Dedicated or directed to his Diocese.

IT is now a year and half since (viz. in the year 1676.) I told you of my sad apprehensions of Popish Design, to destroy both us and our Religion, for though no particular discovery could then be made, yet the discourse and actions of several Papists in these parts did plainly shew they were then preparing that which is now discover'd, for they were then providing Horses and Arms, they posted about Day and Night, they threatned many, That they must ere long Turn or Burn; and some told their Friends, That if it came to Cutting of Throats, they should be saved; which made it evident, that not only they had some bloody design, but also thought themselves sure to effect it: Whereupon I besought you to Arm your selves against the day of Tryal: and Preached a Sermon to that effect. And not knowing what kind of Pastor you might have after my Death, whether a Protestant Pastor not well vers'd in such matters, or a Popish Pastor wholly Devoted to them; I resolv'd at my Decease, to leave you these Sermons as a Legacy, &c.

Doctor

1. *Dr. Tonges Relation of the General Massacre, Intended and Plotted by the Papists: 2. Brought into Parliament by his Direction and Assistance: 3. Near the time of their Prorogation, about the 22th. of June, 1678. by Richard Greene of Dilwin, in the County of Hereford, who first informed the Doctor of it.*

Greenes Relation, delivered to Dr. Tonge, about the 20th. of June, 1678. as he had Written it long before with his own hand, for his own better remembrance: the Original whereof, the Doctor keeps for his own Justification, and will produce when he shall be required.

Sunday the 23. of January 1674.



I *Greene* coming from *Dilwins Church* on the Lords Day, being the 23d. of Jan. last, with *Thomas Boyer*, Servant (and Kinsman) to Mr. *Thomas Boyer*, of *Luntlow*, in the Parish of *Dilwin*, had a Discourse as followeth: said *Thomas Boyer*, Mr. *Johnson* doth take a great deal of pains to Preach against the Papists, but they care little for it. Said *Green*, because they come not to hear him: and said *Boyer*, No, nor never will come now, *Green*, I wish that the Lord would be pleased to open their Ears and Hearts, to hear and know the Truth. *Boyer*, I could wish so too, (said he) but it is to no purpose now, for they be further off now than ever they were. Then *Green* said, you have been amongst them lately, what did you hear from them? *Boyer* said they be Devilish high, higher than ever they were, I pray God grant, they may never have their Wills, they make account it will All be their own.

Note, he was lately returned from *Staffordshire*, with his Master, *Captain Boyer*.

2. *Thomas Boyer* of *Luntlow*, in the Parish of *Dilwin*, Gentleman, Papist Convict, lately returned from a Journey into *Staffordshire*, meeting him, the said *Richard Greene* accidentally in the Fields, asked him, What Newes? to which he replied: that he had heard of an Earthquake;

Note, It appears though *Green*, hath not named the particular day, wherein he had his conference with this *Boyer*, that it was betwixt Sunday, the 23d. and Saturday, the 29th. of January, 1674; and that *Captain Boyer*, made the like Discourse (whereof his mind was very full) the very same day to Mr. *Robert Woodhouse*, another of the Witnesses, mentioned in the following Relation; as they rode together to Mr. *Woodhouses House*: vide infra.

and that at *London*, the Foundations of several Houses were sunk by it, and worse news then all that; That the King was dead, and that it was a Week before the News of the King was contradicted: to which the said *Boyer* replied, That the said Earthquake was generally all over *England*, but no Houses sunk at *London*, and that the News was there where he Travelled, That the King was dead, but it continued not above 24 hours, that if it had continued 48 uncontradicted, the News of his recovery had come too late, for had it (the News of his Death) continued, it would have been an Earthquake

Note, That Mr. *Dugdale*, in the Tryal of *Whitebread*, *Harcourt*, *Gavan* and the rest, saith, that if the Kings Death should happen, they should have been ready to give the first allarm in the Country: and that a Letter was sent into the Country to shew it was the Opinion of them at *Paris* and *St. Omers*, to give out that it was (in Case the King had been kill'd) still those King killing Presbyterians that had done the Fact, thereby to bring the Protestants over to their side, to revenge themselves of the Presbyterians, and cut them off; that they might more easily deal with the Protestants themselves, and cut them off likewise afterwards: and this shews both what overturning Earthquake, *Boyer* spoke of.

indeed, such an Earthquake as had not been in *England* this Hundred years, it had not only shaken; but overturned the very Foundations.

Whereupon *Green* said, you have good Intelligence, to hear that News, and to have it contradicted

* This agrees with *Dugdales* Deposition, that they had three times a Week constantly, and sometimes by Expresses, Letters from *London*.

in 24 hours: *Boyer* answered, the best Intelligence in *England* * He the said *Boyer* also said, that this was the third Fit of an Apoplexy or Trance, that the King had had. To which, when *Green* replied, that God be praised, the Proverb was not fulfilled on his Majesty; which is, *If a man have two forewound Turns, let him beware of the Third.*

Boyer said, its true, he hath escaped the third, but let *England* beware of the next, said *Boyer*. See some particulars here omitted, below Numb. 5. and Marginal Notes there inserted of their Design upon the Kings Death, set out by *Dugdale*.

Memorandum, This was the effect of *Greens* Depositions, put in with his Petition into the grand Committee of the House of Commons, June 28. then assembled for suppressing Popery.

3. *Green* says, In the latter end of the same Week, the said *Thomas Boyer* (Servant and Kinsman to Captain *Boyer*) cometh into my Shop, it being after I had discoursed with his Master, and then after some Friendly greeting had passed between us; I the said *Green*, said, Cousin *Thomas* (for *Green* was his Kinsman) what were the Papists (whilst you were amongst them,) ready to get up on Horse back, to cut our Throats? said *Boyer*, I, sure enough; it seems so said *Green*, for had not their News been

quickly contradicted of his Majesties being dead, they were ready to mount, said *Boyer*, Who told you, said *Green*, you are very close, but I have had some Discourse with your Master, since you came home; said *Boyer*, did he tell you so? I'll tell you nothing, they be a Bloody sort of People. God bless us out of their hands, and so *Boyer*, departed with that Prayer in his mouth.

Note, That by these Words compared with other passages in this Relation, Richard *Greene* wrote this Paper within a twelve month after his aforesaid talk with Captain *Boyer* (viz.) before February 1675.

Upon chance within the space of one year since, I met with Mr. *Boyer*, walking along his Grounds, and after we had greeted each other according to the time of the Day, *Boyer*, asked me, What News? *Green*, told him, I heard not any, I pray, what have you heard? *Boyer* answered, I have heard none, but that the Parliament is adjourned: *Green* asked him, What they had done, *Boyer*, told me nothing at all, but they were about to make a most unreasonable Act: *Green*, asked him what it was; *Boyer* told him, it was that which he had told me of, which was to settle the Inheritance of the Crown upon a Protestant Successor: *Green* asked him, if the Parliament would have made such an Act, I pray you what, did hinder them, and *Boyer* told me, that all the Parliament were not so enclined, but only a factious party of them, in hatred towards the Duke of *York*, because he is a Papist; *Green* told him, that I wished the Succession of the Crown might be settled whilst his Majesty doth live, to prevent a Bloody Dispute, which is very much feared by many will be, except the Succession of the Crown be settled: after which *Boyer* told me, that the Crown after the Death of his Majesty, doth absolutely belong to the Duke of *York*. *Green* asked him, How could that be, being that the King hath a Son, which is the Duke of *Monmouth*, whom all the Protestants which I have heard speak thereof, do declare to be his Fathers lawful Heir. *Boyer* told me, that is not, nor cannot be: *Green*, wished him to take heed what he said, for the Duke of *Monmouth* is Legitimate, for Mr. *Benge* of *Pembroke*, told me, that a very honest Gentleman told him, that a Bishop told him, he married his Majesty to the Duke of *Monmouths* Mother; *Boyer* said, I do not say the Duke of *Monmouth* is a Bastard, but the Objection is, that the King was not married to his Mother with the Consent of the Parliament; *Green* told him, that their Objection I supposed, would signify little or nothing: for if there be a difference between the Duke of *York*, and the Duke of *Monmouth*, and the Parliament do not settle it, I believe that all the Protestants in *England* will adventure their Blood, before the Duke of *Monmouth* shall lose his Birthright, and we lose the liberty of our Religion too: and *Boyer* answered, And we will adventure all our Lives and Fortunes in the behalf of the Duke of *York*, and for the Interest of our Religion: *Green* asked him, what can you do, for you be nothing to us, said *Boyer*, Do not you think so, for although we be but thin here, yet there be many in other places, and powerful persons too: I will raise a Company; said *Green* of what? *Boyer* said of Horse: *Green*, asked him how many his Company should be? *Boyer* said, an Hundred: *Green*, said unto him, by that time you have bought an Hundred Horses, and armed an Hundred men, I suppose you will make a great breach in your Estate: then *Boyer* turned himself to me, and said, I believe I can Raise and Arm Threescore well, and do my self no harm, what think you? but said *Green*, where is your Commission: said *Boyer*, I am now gotten into the acquaintance of them, by whose assistance I can obtain a Commission from the Duke of *York*, as soon as another can: and this Discourse was ended in a Meadow, called the Mill Meadow, with his Face towards a Style, between that and a piece of Ground, called the *Low Furlong*, at the West end of *Luntlows* Mill Garden, presently after the long Prorogation of Parliament for 15 months or more.

N.B. This agrees well with Mr. *Jenisons* Relation of a Commission promised him. And shews by the Proportion, this Captain out of a small Estate, proposed to raise what Numbers they would have had to Cut our Throats, had not God prevented their Design of Assassinating his Majesty, the Signal of this Massacre. And here it may be noted by what false, sly, and pernicious Suggestions and Insinuations, the Jesuits sow the Seeds of Sedition and Rebellion in the Minds of simple and well meaning Persons of all Degrees; as here in the present Case, pretending and raising false Titles to the Crown,

Crown, and thereby dividing the Loyal Subjects thereof into bloody feuds and resolutions: which practices are dangerous to the Kingdom of England above all others, whose People, as may be seen in the Example of this Informant, a poor Weaver from the Yeoman to the meanest Mechanick, are all sensible of, and concerned for the publick Affairs; and therefore are (as a Wise Gentleman long since observe) the only Kingdom of Gentry in the World, without mixture of Slaves, all Intelligent of, and touched as Gentlemen in other Countries with, and ready to assist with their Persons and Estates in all publick Extremities.

Sir Rowland Stanly about two years since about *Lady day*, 1677. held a like Discourse, concerning the Duke of York and *Monmouth*, with Mr. Becker, by which it appears, this pretence of their Massacre was universally laid, how little forever it may be believed or considered by some concerned, to lull us asleep.

Some Particulars omitted in the foregoing Relation of Greens Discourse with Boyer,

Numb. II.

BOYER told *Greene*, that it would be the latter end of next Summer, before they should effect their Design. Then *Green* asked *Boyer*, why it should be delayed so long, seeing you were ready to execute the same immediately upon the receipt of your Intelligence? to which he answered, That if that Advantage or Opportunity had fell or happened into our hands, we would have made the best Advantage we could have done of the Kings Death, but by that time we shall be in a sufficient Order to effect our Design; * and told me also, that all the Papists Universally, were engaged

* Which was the Kings being dispatched or killed by the Papists: for Mr. Dugdale saith, in the Tryal of Whitebread, Harcourt and the rest, that two years before the said Tryal, which was about the time of these Discourses of *Green* and *Boyer* he heard it Discoursed for the first time in the little Parlour at my Lord Astons House, and at Mr. Ewers Chamber by Mr. Ewers and Mr. Gavan (who were the first that broke the matter to him, that the King was to be kill'd: that he saw a Letter under Whitebreads own Hand, enclosed in one from Groves to Mr. Ewers, wherein he gave Mr. Ewers a Caution, to be sure to chuse those who were Trusty, Hardy and Desperate, &c. to kill the King: That there were several Consultations at Mr. Ewers Chamber at Boscobell, and several other places, for Conspiring the Kings Death: That at one of these Consultations held at Tixall, about the 21 of September 1678, were present, Mr. Gavan, Mr. Ewers, Mr. Peters, Mr. Lewson, my Lord Stafford and others, That he was chosen as a fit Person to kill the King, entertained by my Lord Stafford and Mr. Ewers for this purpose; and to be sent for this purpose to London, to be under the tuition of Mr. Parsons: that he saw Mr. Turner, when he was going to his Brother Turner in Nottinghamshire, with Mr. Ewers, Mr. Lewson and others, and they did consult and agree there in his hearing, about Conspiring the Death of the King, Introducing Popery, &c. That he saw and received several Packets of Letters from several Persons beyond Seas, which were by Mr. Harcourts Instruction, and communicated by Grove to Mr. Ewers, which Letters did contain matters in them, for the Introducing of Popery, and Killing and Destroying the King. He likewise intercepted and read a Hundred Letters, given under Mr. Harcourts own Hand to the same purpose. That Mr. Gavan used several Arguments to prove the Lawfulness of, and shewed him several Examples for King-killing. Nay, for the killing of any to Introduce their own Religion: he endeavoured to prove it by Scripture, the Text Mr. Dugdale could not call to mind, but it was to shew, how it was lawful and good to destroy any, for the advantage of their Religion: shewing the Example of Father Garnet, how, by several of his Relicks beyond Sea, great Miracles had been done. And in the Tryal of Langhorne, he saith, he was in most of their Consultations for the Murder of the King, that he heard the very words used, was hired to be an Actor in it, was to have a sum of Money, and a place appointed him to do it: and that the Persons who put him upon it, was Mr. Ewers, Gavan, Lewson, Vavasser; who were all Jesuits. The Sum promised by Lord Stafford, and confessed by Lord Aston, was 500 l. advance mony, and farther Reward, Preferment, &c.

in the carrying on of their Design, and not only in England, but in all places, and especially the French Papists. Boyer also affirmed that this Plotted * Massacre was to be truly Catholick, and to

Note, That Mr. Dugdale saith, in Whitebreads Tryal, that at some Consultations he heard speak of a Massacre, that there was a Massacre intended, and an Army to be raised, that if any did escape the Massacre whom they could not be sure to be Papists, they might be cut off by the said Army; and in Langhorns Tryal, he saith, that Ewers, Gavan, Lewson and Vavasser, did always speak of an Army that was to be raised, but not actually till the King was kill'd. That it was first concluded to raise an Army, but the last resolution was, that no Armies should appear till the King was kill'd; upon whose Death was to be the Massacre, and then a pretty considerable Army to be raised, which was to cut off those who escaped the Massacre.

be executed not only in all parts of the Kingdom, but against all Protestants of whatever Sect or

Perſwaſion, Presbyterians, Independents or others, Quakers themselves not wholly exempted, though by him weakly pretended to be favoured: and that in case they could not execute this designed Massacre that Summer, yet before the next Session of Parliament at farthest they would do it.

Note, That the Summer 1675. in which this Plot was designed to be executed, and consequently, the King to be killed, was in the time of the 15 months Prorogation of the Parliament, and *Boyer* said, that was to be begun so, that it might be fully executed before the time that the Parliament was to meet again.

By which it appears, that if they did not procure that long illegal Prorogation purposely, the more securely to execute their Plot against the King, yet at least they feared to be discovered in Parliament, and thought their recess the securest season for them to carry on their bloody Design against Him and His People.

Greenes Memorandum

Omitted in my first Discourse with Mr. *Boyer*, which was presently after the Prorogation of the Parliament, in the latter end of the year 74. in which, as in all the rest of his Discourse, the said *Thomas Boyer* said, What faith Mr. *Rawnel* (which was their Priest, as he himself declared him so to be) the King did but jeer the Parliament, when at his Prorogation of them, He gave them Thanks for their care of Him and of the Protestant Religion, and that that Prorogation was in favour to the Papists, whom the King looked upon to be his best Friends.

I omitted this on purpose, because I looked upon it to be one of their Jesuitical Forgeries, whereby they thought to encourage Protestants that were but weak Principled, to become their Profelytes, and also to animate and provoke to Rebellion against the Kings Sacred Person, and Established Government all these Phanatical parties, which they by their Busy, Subtle, and Devilish Policies, have torn, rent and divided from our Communion. A very sad effect thereof appears in *Scotland*, I pray God grant that it may not be as a shower of Rain, to cause their Seeds of Rebellion to spring or grow up here in *England*.

In my second Discourse, I left not out any thing material, but his boasting of the power of their Wealth, which *Boyer* expressed in these Words. Money is the Sinew and Strength of War, by that time we make our Attempt, we shall be well Furnished with That; and having Money, we shall not want Men: for there be many of the Common sort of People, that will Fight for him that will give them the most Money, and before we will not starve our Cause.

Also in the latter end of Jan. 74. *Mary Boyer*, Sister to the said *Thomas Boyer* Papist, being at my House, with other Discourses told me, That the King was very Sickly, and would not live long, and then the Duke of *York* will be King, and will set up our Religion.

The said *Mary Boyer* had before that time Contracted herself with a Protestant Gentleman, but after her Brothers coming out of *Staffordshire*, and when she did understand the Protestants were all to be destroyed, she broke off with her Protestant Lover, and gave him 15 l. and after she did Marry with a Papist, whom before she did very much despise.

John Marshall, Captain *Boyers* Sunday Fidler, for that service only, hath Meat, Drink, Washing and Lodging, and all his Week time to himself, to employ in Playing, Fishing, Fowling, &c. all for his own advantage. This was the man who disarmed his Master *Boyer*, he was Bailly, and both Treated and Threatned *Greene*, as is elsewhere said, and would have forsworn the Fray between Mr. *Robert Woodhouse*, and his Master, &c. Thus *Greene*.

An Account or Narration of what Mr. Thomas Boyer Papist Convict, declared to Mr. Robert Woodhouse, of the Parish of Stanton upon Arrow, in the County of Hereford, in the Evening of that day, January 74. being Pot-valiant, on which he had fresh and fasting, more as large declared himself in the morning to me Richard Greene, as the aforesaid Mr. Woodhouse declared with his own mouth unto me.

MR. *Boyer* said *Robin*, I will tell thee some News: *Woodhouse*, what is that: *Boyer*, there will be a great many Bloody Noses in *England* this Summer: *Woodhouse*, what will become of mine then: *Boyer*, thou art an honest Fellow, there shall not one Hair of thy Head perish, I will stand between thee and all harm: *Woodhouse*, what must I be under thy Protection; art thou to be so much concerned in it: *Boyer*, I will raise a Troop of Horse for the Duke of *York*: Mr. *Woodhouse* not complying with him, nor yet giving him any Thanks for his proffer'd Protecting of him, the said *Boyer* being riding along with, and being something behind the said *Woodhouse*, *Boyer* said, God Damn me, *Robin*, look to thy self, for I will run thee through the Back: the said *Woodhouse* although he slighted his proffer'd Protection, yet took notice of his danger, and thereupon spurred his Mare which he did ride upon, which received all the Wounds that was given in the Combatt, upon the receipt of which, she started with her Master out of danger, and being out of the same, he drew his Sword to defend himself, and with as fair warning to his Old Friend and new Enemy, he said, Now *Boyer* look to thy self, my Sword is drawn as well as thine: which Words sounded so shrill in Mr. *Boyers* mans (*John Marshall* aforesaid) ears, that he did ride in between them, to part the Fray, which he did by disarming his Master, and by giving Mr. *Woodhouse* good Words, who *Woodhouse* did afterwards entertain them both at his House that Night; but all the Words that passed between them before, Mr. *Boyers* man would not acknowledge upon his examination, that he heard any of them, and would have

have denied that (the fray) too, but that his Master let fall the Scabbard of his Sword in the place, and Mr. Woodhouse in kindness did send one or more of his Servants with himself, with a Lanthorn and Candle to find the same, for at the present the Barrel ended all the Quarrel, they drunk the other bout, and the Drunken Fit being over, it was no more thought upon for a while: but afterwards the aforesaid Boyer did desire one Edward Price a Saddler by Trade, to make for him some Holsters for Pistols, but how many I know not: the said Edward Price, having near the same time more Papist Customers for such tackle, was jealous of them; and thereupon he informed a Justice of the Peace therewith: upon which information several Justices met in order to examine the said Price. And it happened so, that the said Woodhouse being in a Market Town called Presteyn, and at the House where the Justices met upon the aforesaid business, and in the Company of John Adams and Richard Hill of the same, he asked them what was the meaning of the Justices meeting there (which was but lately before,) who told him that Price the Saddler had informed that one Mr. Thomas Boyer, a Papist, had bespoke of him ten pair of Holsters for Pistols, to which the said Woodhouse replied, surely then he is going to raise the Troop of Horse for the Duke of York, which he told me he would raise, and therewith declared the aforesaid Discourse between Mr. Boyer and himself to them, who informed a Justice of the Peace, or Lord Bishop of Hereford therewith, whereupon the said Woodhouse was forced to Witness the same; and then afterwards (as it is before declared) in the Whitsun week, 1676. I went in with my Information, and then after that, the Justices had many times met together upon the same Concern, the said Boyer was committed to Prison, there to remain until the next great Assize: and We the Witnesses, Edward Price, Robert Woodhouse, Gent. and Richard Greene were bound over to the same, to justify our Evidence in his Majesties behalf against Mr. Boyer, before the Judge of the Assize, to which accordingly we all very diligently gave our Attendance. But Judge Wild who rode that Circuit, called the said Boyer, and did not trouble himself (as was expected in a business of that weight) to examine either the Prisoner or the Witnesses, but told him that he had read the Depositions against him, and that therein he did find that he had spoke very dangerous Words, and did very sharply chide him, and told him it did not become such a one as him to talk of the overturning of Kingdoms, and of the carrying on of the changing of Governments, &c. and that he might by the Law take a severer Course with him; but because he was a young man, he would only bind him to his good Behaviour, and therefore bid him produce his surety quickly; and he the said Boyer, as before knowing the issue thereof, produced two Papists for his Sureties standing by him ready for the same purpose. Which binding of him, was but a letting of him loose, (as it did afterwards appear) to spit his Popish Venom at poor Richard Greene, which he and his accomplices did to the purpose; for they Prosecuted me with four malicious Law Suits, and Threatned me with many more, and at last, wrongfully Imprisoned me: and both before I went to Prison, and in the Prison, he demanded nothing of me, but Submission and Recantation; and to declare those Truths which I before upon Oath had Witnessed against him, were False, and to Acknowledg that I had done him Wrong thereby; and that by doing so, I may expect his love and favour as formerly: and in not doing so, I should never come out of Prison, which though I never did; yet I am out of Prison, Thanks be to God; but when I came out I was so much impoverished, so much Threatned, so much Slandered, and so much forsaken of Friends (for many sought to merit the favour of my Adversaries by doing me Injuries) by which I was forced to sell my Goods and Cattle; and, my Wife my fellow Sufferer with me in all this, took our flight together from our Native Country.

These are the poor mans own Words, Written down in his own hand, who in another proceeds thus in his Relation.

Anno Domini 1676.

ABout Whitsuntide, one Thomas Woodhouse of Standbeach in Herefordshire, Hatter, bringing Richard Greene a Hat, said, My Brother Robert Woodhouse was in a great deal of trouble about Mr. Boyer (aforesaid) and very sorry he had occasioned him to be questioned for Words spoken to him. Greene questioned Thomas Woodhouse about what time the Words were spoken by Mr. Boyer to Mr. Robert Woodhouse, the said Hatters Brother, and he found by him that it was the same time that he the said Greene had the same conference with Captain Thomas Boyer, viz. January 7th. which confirmed him more in his fear of a Massacre. Thomas Woodhouse related this Discourse with Greene to his Brother Robert, who sent for him to speak with him, and R. W. related that Boyer had told him, there would be many Bloody Noses that Summer, but a hair of his Head should not be touched, and that the said Boyer would raise a Troop of Horse for the Duke of York, and enquired what Boyer had spoken to him; Greene replied, he would be excused; Then Woodhouse said, he would have him Summoned to Hereford, where he was himself to appear the next day; to this he replied, he scorned to be forced to Witness for his King and Country, if he would lend him a Horse, he would go with him, and accordingly he did, and testified his knowledge in the Particulars aforesaid, before the Justices of the Peace, then and there assembled as hath been related above.

And then it was (viz. about Whitsuntide 1676.) that the said Robert Woodhouse, Richard Greene, and several others were examined before Sir James Bridges now Lord Shandoes, and other Justices of the Peace of the County of Hereford, as aforesaid; upon whose examinations the said Captain Thomas Boyer was committed to Prison, &c.

It is to be observed, That against the said Assizes following when the said Richard Greene attended to give Evidence against Captain Thomas Boyer, he had reserved many considerable particulars of his

evidence against the time of the Tryal, to which he expected that Captain Boyer would have been then brought in the face of the whole County. So that the Depositions taken before the said Justices are not so full as these Informations in several particulars.

Judge Wilde who went that Circuit at that Assizes, never suffered any Witnesses to be produced or examined against Captain Boyer (as is said) but only said he had read the Affidavits, and ordered him to be bound to his Good Behaviour. Let it be examined by whose Order or Advice he suppressed the evidence of so horrid a Massacre, its probable some of them in question did contrive thus to Suppress this Discovery, their Names also who bespoke the other Cases of Holsters should be inquired, as probably Conscious and agents in this Suppression.

That by this means Greenes Evidence being Suppressed, the Discovery which he designed upon his Oath to make in the face of the County of a general Massacre of all Protestants, of what Profession soever, and that universally over all the Kingdom to be made by the Papists Armed and Conspired together in that Plot, was Concealed in a great part, and the Papists thereby encouraged to go on ever since more confidently and fiercely in their Plot both against the Kings Life, whose Death was their Signal, and against all his Protestant Subjects that were to be Massacred thereupon, as far as the Papists Swords could reach, and those whom the Massacre reach't not weakned thereby, were to be pursued and cut off by War and Foreign Assistance, under the Duke of Yorks Authority.

In June 1678. about the 20th. day, a little before the Parliament was Prorogued Dr. Tonge attending on the Parliament with some Propositions for suppressing of Popery, and relief of the Poor, happened accidentally into the Company of Richard Greene, with whom he entred some Discourse about promoting the Linnen Manufacture, and his, the Doctors employing so many poor Women to Spin, as might find the said Greene constant Work, but found he had sold his Loomes, and fled his Country for fear of the Papists.

That upon this occasion Greene related the whole Plot unto Dr. Tonge, and his Sufferings occasioned by the discovery thereof, and the accidental manner of his being brought for an Evidence against his kind Kinsman and Landlord, and great confident by Mr. Woodhouse. Then out of Compassion to the said Greene, and for encouragement of the like Discoverers and Discoveries for the future, Dr. Tonge advised the said Greene to complain to the Parliament then sitting in a grand Committee for suppressing of Popery, drew him a Petition and Articles out of his, the said Greenes own information, and directed him how to deliver it, and lest by any accident he might miscarry, wrote a note for him to the Door keeper, to call out some worthy member to receive his Petition, and followed him himself to the House, and saw his Papers delivered into Sir Trevor Williams hand, and heard they were read in the Grand Committee.

Richard Greenes Petition

To the Honourable the Committe for suppressing of POPERY.

The Humble Petition of Richard Greene, late of Biron in the County of Hereford his Native Country, and thence terrified and forced by Malicious Suits and Terrours by Thomas Boyer Gent. Papist Convict, and his Accomplices.

Most Humbly Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner being a poor Weaver, held a House and Land of Thomas Boyer of Dilwins in the County aforesaid, Papist Convict, for several years paid him his Rent constantly, had never any difference with him till about Whitsuntide 1676. at which time your Petitioner with several others, was examined upon Reports spread in those parts of Change of Government expected, and Insurrections to be made thereupon by the Papists.

That after such time as your Petitioner had made Oath of the particulars upon which he was examined for his Mjesty, contained in a Paper hereunto annexed, whereupon the said Boyer was committed to Prison, and was discharged, he the said Boyer after caused your said Petitioner to be causelessly Arrested at the Suit of him the said Boyer, demanding only by persons sent to him during his Imprisonment, Submission and Acknowledgement that your Petitioner had done him wrong in his said Deposition, without which he should be kept in Prison and have no discharge, notwithstanding your Petitioner did tender common Bayle, which as your Petitioner was advised, was all the Law did require; and your Petitioner was accordingly detained in Prison about a fortnight, till he could procure a Superseas from the Sheriff, (who was then in London) to his great expence and loss of his whole subsistence for himself and Family, depending on his Labour and Trade.

That the said Boyer having given out that he would Arrest your Petitioner again, as he was credibly informed, which would have been his utter Ruine, and refused 16 shillings Rent, tendred as soon as Due, he was forced to sell off the necessary Looms, and other Tooles and Instruments of his Trade to discharge his Debts, contracted by his Imprisonment, and to fly his Native Country, to which he still is in fear to return, for Reasons hereunto annexed. Humbly Prayes

That your Honours would according to your Wisdom provide and apply such relief for your oppressed

sed Petitioner, and Satisfaction for his unjust Imprisonment and Ruine of his Family, as may stand with Justice and Honour of Parliament; that your Petitioner, and other his Majesties faithful Subjects may not be deterred from Testifying their Knowledge on behalf of his Majesty, when they are thereunto required, nor to bayl, assist and relieve one another when Maliciously prosecuted by Papists, as in your Petitioners Case. And your Petitioner shall Pray, &c.

The effect of *Richard Greenes* Depositions against *Thomas Boyer* may be seen above in the second Paragraph of this Relation, which he put into the Committee with his Petition and these Articles.

The means by which *Richard Greene* hath been forced and terrified out of his Country by *Thomas Boyer*, Papist Convict, and his accomplices, annexed to and put into Parliament with his Petition.

1. **H**E arrested the said *Greene* without Cause, and detained him in Prison, (refusing Legal Bayl,) till he had got a Superseas.
2. He terrified the special Bayl he had procured, by his Agents, that he shrunk from him, though he knew him Innocent.
3. He terrified all his Neighbours, so that when he was to pay 16 s. his last Rent due to *Boyer*, for a Tenement and Land he held of him, none durst tender it for him, nor Witness it, and *Boyer* himself refused to take it, when he tender'd it before Witnesses, that he might terrify him with pretence of a Suit.
4. He had so frightened the Neighbours that none would help him Reap his Crop of Rye, nor carry it for him, and was forced to get Strangers to do it, that when he had brought a Team to carry his Grain, a Threatning Message was sent to him that carryed it, that by those means being in a very destitute condition, and in fear of his life, or some other mischief to befall him; he hath been compelled ever since to Wander from Place to Place like a Banished man, to seek employment for Himself and Wife amongst Strangers.

The fear of this Massacre, and his hard usage by his Landlord *Boyer* terrified *Greene* so, that he advised with his Wife to go out of *England* to *Virginy* or elsewhere, but his Wife not consenting, he removed himself (as soon as he could) further from the said *Boyer*, as distrusting his pretended kindness * if any rising should be, and with an intent also to be more free and at liberty to testify what he knew of this Plotted Massacre, when further off from him. *For *Greene* was *Boyers* Kinsman and had been very intimate with him till called to witness against him.

This was in February and March. 1676.

Dr. Tonge having laid this Foundation of a Discovery of this Plot, and brought it thus into Parliament with one Witness present to attest it; he hoped that by the Wisdom, Industry and Intelligence of that Honorable House, upon examination of *Greene* and other two Witnesses formerly sworn, and of the two *Thomas Boyers*, Master and Servant forementioned, some effectual course might have been taken to prevent such Bloody Designs of the Papists, as were then on foot, and suppress the growth of Popery for the future, and so thereby to avoid the danger of such Plots, Tumults and Massacres for the Ages to come, from which otherwise these Kingdoms can never be secured, as is now most manifest.

N. B. This Captain *Thomas Boyer* hath since taken the Oath of Allegiance, &c.

Albeit the Prorogation of the Parliament, which followed shortly after, did render this first Attempt of the Doctors producing this Plot into that High Court, and Propositions for Suppressing Popery ineffectual at that time; yet it much encouraged him in his Proceedings in the next Discovery, which he made shortly after, in the latter end of July 1678, by Mr. *Oats's* Papers, and relation of the same Universal Massacre, in that he had given some Light of it to the House of Commons before, and had some Evidence of the general Design, by the Testimony of *Greene* and others, whom he hoped to produce in Parliament, if he could by any means bring Mr. *Oats's* Papers into that High Court, and caused his Oath to be taken by Sir *Edmund bury Godfrey* for that purpose, in three several Depositions, one of 73 Articles, September 6th. and two of 81 Articles, September 28. 1678. that in Case he had failed of Success in the Privy Council, he might have one Copy at least, to produce in Parliament.

In the latter end of December 1678. *Richard Greene* after he had been examined before the Secret Committee of the House of Commons, was ordered to go before Sir *William Scroggs*, the Lord Chief Justice and make Affidavit of the Truth of his Information, the Tuesday following, that the Persons Concerned, and the other Witnesses might be sent for, but the Parliament was Prorogued on the Monday, the day before that Tuesday appointed for his appearing before the Lord Chief Justice, so that this purpose was defeated, and he remains yet either not fully examined, or not sworn to his information, and particularly not to the point of the Universal Massacre intended by the Papists in the long recess of Parliament in the Summer 1676.

That *Dr. Tonge* hath not been able as yet, to procure a Copy of the Affidavits or Examinations of *Richard Greene*, *Robert Woodhouse*, and the other Witnesses taken in *Heresfordshire* before the Lord *St Andrews*, nor the Transcript of them sent up to the Privy Council as he desired, and intreated the assistance of the Committee therein, for the greater certainty of his Narrative of this Discovery, and the Confirmation of the Evidence, and the refutation of the Scandals raised against both him and it. Against him as a Contriver or Inventer of this Plot and its Discovery to King and Parliament, and the Plot as his Malitious Invention.

Richard

Richard Greenes Depositions.

Put into the Secret Committee of the Honorable, the House of Commons, by Dr. Tonge in May 1679.

Richard Greene, late of Dilwyn in the County of Hereford, Weaver; maketh Oath, that he received the relation of the following Particulars of the several Massacres designed by the Papists against his Majesties Protestant Subjects, from the mouth of Captain Thomas Boyer of Luntlow in the Parish aforesaid, and he verily believes the said Relation to be True.

I. That in Case his Majesty had dyed of the Swooning Fit he had in the latter end of the year 1675. the Papists had then risen in Arms, and overturned all the Foundations of the Government with such an Earthquake as hath not been in England this Hundred Years.

II. That albeit the King recovered of that which was his Third Fit, contrary to the Proverb, yet they hoped to be ready by the latter end of Summer 1676. for their Design.

III. That if they could not then fully accomplish their Design, yet at farthest before the next Session of Parliament, then Prorogued for 16 or 17 Months, they hoped to effect it.

IV. That in this Design all the Papists at Home and Abroad were engaged, and especially the French, and expected no assistance from any other Separate Party.

V. That no Protestants, Presbyters, Independants, &c. were to be spared.

VI. That Thomas Boyer aforesaid, was to raise a Troop of Horse for this Design.

VII. That this Deponent was to be at first examined at Hereford Assizes with other Witnesses, where Justice Wild put off the Tryal; And only bound the Person aforementioned, (viz. Boyer,) to his Good Behaviour 1676. and secondly, before the House of Commons in June 1678. who, shortly after his Petition delivered into the Grand Committee of the House For Suppressing Popery, was Prorogued: Thirdly, before the Lord Chief Justice Scroggs, by Order of the Secret Committee, the last Sessions of Parliament, who immediately thereupon, was first Prorogued, and then Dissolved.

VIII. That he was never yet examined upon Oath since, though he attended the Secret Committee several times.

Richard Greene.

Juravit coram me, John Hoskyns, Master of Chancery:
May the 12th. 1679.

Advertisements

DOctor Tonge doth hereby disown whatever Books or Papers have hitherto been Printed or Published in his Name, as Composed by him; or seen and allowed by him to be Printed or Published, or shall hereafter; unless attested under his Hand; as revised by him from the Press, except some Translations out of French.

Courteous Reader,

There are in the Press, and will shortly be published, An Abridgment of Controversies, being a brief and solid Confutation of Popish Errors, by express Texts out of the Bible of their own Translation.

Also, the History of the Turkish Assassins; and a Parallel of the them with the Popish; and other Papers of that Subject, the former long since translated, and both now published by Dr. Tonge.

Be pleased to take notice also of that excellent Treatise, intituled The Hearts Sovereign, long since published at the Charge of the Author, Mr. Tho. Jones, late Household Chaplain to his Highness the D. of York: in which Family he so vigorously opposed the Favorers and Connivers at the Growth of POPERY: of which he is able, if called, to give a good Account, That, for that cause he was removed from that Place, to make way for them to pervert his Highness's family: and since, hath been by their Contrivance, ruined in his Estate and Reputation, as he hopes to make appear if admitted to Audience.

Errata, For 167^d read 167^s.

F I N I S.

.....

He continued holding to my self, I do wish them to
be true.
Acting for the good of the world, as to the things herein
I do wish them to be true.

THE FLOOD.

.....
.....
.....

.....

HAVING perused this Narrative Printed for Mr.
Dorman Newman, as to the things herein
contained Relating to my self, I do Attest them to
be true.

Westminster,

THO. BLOOD.

November 7. 1679.
